

What is claimed is:

1. Motor vehicle door lock with latching elements comprising:
a latch;
a ratchet; and
a lock mechanism, the lock mechanism further comprising a drive having a drive motor and an actuating element, wherein the ratchet is positioned so that motion of the drive is blocked by the ratchet, and wherein the ratchet blocks the drive without directly engaging the actuating element.
2. Motor vehicle door lock as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a step-down gearing located between the drive motor and the actuating element.
3. Motor vehicle door lock as claimed in claim 2, wherein the step-down gearing further comprises a worm wheel and a worm in driving connection with the worm wheel.
4. Motor vehicle door lock as claimed in claim 1, wherein the ratchet is raised by a motor actuating the actuating element and wherein the actuating element has an engagement arrangement for engaging the ratchet.
5. Motor vehicle door lock as claimed in claim 4, wherein the engagement arrangement is symmetrical over the adjustment area of the actuating element.
6. Motor vehicle door lock as claimed in claim 4, wherein the engagement arrangement comprises three elongated control cams that protrude from the center of the actuating element.
7. Motor vehicle door lock as claimed in claim 5, wherein the engagement arrangement comprises two elongated control cams that protrude from the center of the actuating element.

8. Motor vehicle door lock as claimed in claim 3, wherein the worm wheel comprises a stop and wherein the stop, after the ratchet is moved into the raised position for blocking the drive, runs against the ratchet.

9. Motor vehicle door lock as claimed in claim 3, wherein the worm comprises a stop and wherein the stop, after the ratchet is moved into the raised position for blocking the drive, runs against the ratchet.

10. Motor vehicle door lock as claimed in claim 9, wherein the drive between the drive motor and the actuating element is a single-stage gearing.

11. Motor vehicle door lock as claimed in claim 8, wherein a line of action of the striking force runs through an axis of the ratchet when the drive is being blocked.

12. Motor vehicle door lock as claimed in claim 9, wherein a line of action of the striking force runs through an axis of the ratchet when the drive is being blocked.

13. Motor vehicle door lock as claimed in claim 2, wherein the worm wheel is coupled to the actuating element such that three revolutions of the worm wheel correspond to one revolution of the actuating element.

14. Motor vehicle door lock as claimed in claim 2, wherein the worm wheel is coupled to the actuating element such that two revolutions of the worm wheel correspond to one revolution of the actuating element.

15. Motor vehicle door lock as claimed in claim 2, wherein the worm wheel is coupled to the actuating element such that four revolutions of the worm wheel correspond to one revolution of the actuating element.

16. Motor vehicle door lock as claimed in claim 2, wherein the external teeth of the worm wheel have a first toothed segment for coupling to the drive motor and a second toothed segment for coupling to the actuating element.

17. Motor vehicle door lock as claimed in claim 16, wherein the first and second toothed segments have a different diameter.

18. Motor vehicle door lock as claimed in claim 1, further comprising a spring element coupled to the latch and to the ratchet such that the spring force acts on the ratchet in a direction of engagement and on the latch in a direction of an open position.

19. Motor vehicle door lock as claimed in claim 1, wherein a separate element coupled to the ratchet for producing said blocking of the drive.

20. Motor vehicle door lock as claimed in claim 9, wherein a separate element coupled to the ratchet for producing said blocking of the drive

21. Drive for a motor vehicle door lock comprising:

at least one displaceable operating element;

a drive motor; and

an actuating element,

wherein the at least one displaceable operating element is displaceable by the drive, wherein the actuating element is movable into an action area of the drive for blocking continued motion of the drive by the operating element, and wherein a coupling point of the operating element, viewed in a kinematic chain from the drive motor to the actuating element, lies in front of the actuating element.

22. Drive for a motor vehicle door lock comprising:

at least one displaceable operating element further comprising a ratchet, a drive motor and an actuating element, wherein the ratchet is displaceable by a drive into an action area of the

drive such that continued motion of the drive is blockable by the ratchet, and wherein the drive is made such that a coupling point for actuation of the ratchet does not directly include the actuating element.